

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 12017 042139Z

64

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 OES-02 OCE-00 CCO-00 EB-03 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6838

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 12017

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN BDIS VE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ATS-6 COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY
DEMONSTRATION IN VENEZUELA: VISIT OF WERNER VON BRAUN

REF: STATE 265306

1. I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE MADE IT INFORMALLY CLEAR TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT ALTHOUGH DR. FERNANDEZ-MORAN MAY BE A BRILLIANT MEDICAL SCIENTIST, HE IS MOSTLY OUT FOR FERNANDEZ-MORAN AND HIS HOME STATE OF ZULIA. IN FACT, FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS PLEASANT HIJACKING OF WERNER VON BRAUN TO COME TO VENEZUELA, I HAVE SUSPECTED THAT THE TWO BASIC MOTIVIES WERE AS STATED ABOVE AND THAT FERNANDEZ-MORAN WAS SEEKING TO USE THE GREAT PRESTIGE OF VON BRAUN TO BRING IN GOV AND US INTERESTS SUCH AS FAIRCHILD INTO SUPPORTING A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN HIS HOME TOWN OF MARACAIBO.

2. THROUGH WERNER VON BRAUN'S ENTOURAGE I HAVE CONFIRMATION OF THIS HYPOTHESIS. VON BRAUN IS DINING WITH ME PRIVATELY TOMORROW EVENING AND I SHALL BE ABLE TO REPORT MORE FULLY THEREAFTER.

3. IF DEPARTMENT OR NASA WANTS TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THE FAIRCHILD PROJECT, I SHOULD APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS BUT RECOMMEND THAT WE REMOVE FERNANDEZ-MORAN FROM FUTURE
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CONVERSATIONS. AS A FORMER PEREZ-JIMENISTA HE CARRIES LITTLE

CREDENCE WITH PRESENT VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT.
MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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